

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

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FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2990

DA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 9788

PASS AID

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: EGEN, EAID, CB

SUBJ: ROUTE 4 LOGISTIC ENHANCEMENT: POL TRANSPORT

REF: A. STATE 179887; B. PHNOM PENH 9486; C. CINCPAC 052308Z;
D. STATE 175085; E. PHNOM PENH 9015

1. POL LOGISTIC ENHANCEMENT OF ROUTE 4 IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE FOR ESSENTIAL POL REQUIREMENTS. THIS WILL BE LESS THAN NORMAL USAGE LEVELS, SINCE IF THE MEKONG WAS CLOSED AND ALL OTHER LOC'S SHUT, EXCEPT FOR ROUTE 4, IT WOULD BE A IN EXTREMIS SITUATION. SEVERE EMERGENCY MEASURES WOULD BE IN ORDER, AND CONSEQUENTLY ONLY THE MOST NECESSARY OF POL USES WOULD BE PERMITTED. THE GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE TO STOP ALL NON-ESSENTIAL USE OF TRANSPORT AND REQUISITION ANY AND ALL VEHICLES NEEDED FOR POL MOVEMENT. IN SUCH EMERGENCY SITUATION, WITH NO CONVOYS TO/FROM BATTAMBANG, OTHER MOVEMENT CURTAILED, AND POWER SUPPLY RATIONED, CIVILIAN USE SHOULD BE REDUED TO 25 PCT OF NORMAL USE. THE SCOOT PLAN, BY COMPARISON WOULD HAVE PROVIDED ABOUT 19 PCT OF NORMAL USE. MILITARY REQUIREMENTS SHOULD ALSO BE REDUCED, TO A TARGET OF 80 PCT OF NORMAL MILITARY USE. THE SCOOT PLAN WOULD HAVE PROVIDED 50 PCT OF NORMAL MILITARY USE.

2. NORMAL POL USAGE HAS BEEN AVERAGE DAILY MILITARY USE AND 195,000
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AVERAGE DAILY CIVILIAN USE. ON THE EMERGENCY BASIS OUTLINED

ABOVE, THE DAILY CIVIL AND MILITARY REQUIREMENTS TO BE MET VIA ROUTE 4 WOULD BE 83,000 GALLONS PER DAY. A TRUCK CAN MAKE A ROUND TRIP FROM KOMPONG SOM TO PHNOM PENH ONLY EVERY THREE DAYS, AND CAPACITY OF TANK KITS MUST MEET A THREE-DAY REQUIREMENT. THIS WOULD BE 249,000 GALLONS. THE NUMBER OF 1,200 GALLON TANK KITS NEEDED TO MEET THIS REQUIREMENT WOULD BE 208. THE NUMBER OF TRUCKS NEEDED, ASSUMING A 25 PCT DEADLINE FACTOR, WOULD BE 260.

3. THE FOLLOWING TABLE IS A RECAP:

80 PCT NORMAL MILITARY USE	44 TG/DAY
25 PCT NORMAL CIVIL USE	59 TG/DAY
	83 TG/DAY
EACH 3 DAYS	X3
	249 TG/DAY
NUMBER 1,200 GAL. TANK NEEDED	208
NUMBER TRUCKS, WITH 25 DEADLINE FACTOR	260

4. IT IS OUR ASSESSMENT THERE ARE SUFFICIENT TRUCKS IN COUNTRY SUITABLE TO BE FITTED WITH THE 1,200 GALLON FUEL TANK KITS TO MOVE 208 TANKS KITS ON A SUSTAINED BASIS.

5. THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS CALCULATES THERE ARE 900 GENERAL CARGO CIVILIAN TRUCKS REGISTERED IN THE COUNTRY. OF THESE ABOUT IT IS ESTIMATED 370 ARE FLAT BEDS SUITABLE FOR CARRYING THE 1,200 GALLON FUEL TANK KITS. IN ADDITION THERE ARE THE 600 AUSTRALIAN TRUCKS PROVIDED BY THE U.S. IN 1971. (528 OF THESE ARE IN CURRENT OPERATION). OF THESE 350 WERE PROVIDED TO FANK AND 250 TO GOVERNMENT CIVIL AGENCIES. PUBLIC WORKS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY ALSO HAS A FLEET OF ABOUT 40 DUMP TRUCKS, HALF NEW, WHICH COULD ACCOMMODATE THE FUEL KITS. IN ADDITION FANK HAS 100 TRUCKS, M35A2, 2-1/2 AND 5-TON DUMP, WHICH ARE SUITABLE FOR USE FOR FUEL HAULING AND COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE, IF NECESSARY, IN AN EMERGENCY FOR POL MOVEMENT. ALSO, TELA KHMER HAS ABOUT 60 TANKER TRUCKS AVAILABLE, 7 5 WHICH 20 MUST REMAIN IN PHNOM PENH TO TAKE CARE OF MILITARY PRIORITIES. OF THE REST OF THE TANKER TRUCK FLEET, 8 ABOUT 25 UNITS ARE IN GOOD ENOUGH SHAPE TO DEPEND ON THEM TO SUSTAIN CONTINUOUS DRIVING BETWEEN KOMPONG SOM AND PHNOM PENH.

6. THE FOLLOWING IS A RECAP:

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AUSTRALIAN TRUCKS (FANK AND CIVIL)	528
FANK M35A2 AND DUMP TRUCKS	100
PUBLIC WORKS DUMP TRUCKS	40
TELA KHMER TANDERS	25
PRIVATE-OWNED FLAT BEDS (ESTIMATE)	370
TOTAL	1,063

7. IN AN EMERGENCY SITUATION, 150 OF THE AUSTRALIAN TRUCKS IN

CIVIL MINISTRIES SHOULD BE AVAILABLE WITHOUT DISRUPTING OTHER
ESSENTIAL MOVEMENT. SOME OF THE FANK AUSTRALIAN TRUCKS AS WELL
AS SOME OF THE OTHER SUITABLE FANK TRUCKS COULD BE USED. PERHAPS
70 ALL TOGETHER FROM FANK WOULD THEREBY BE AVAILABLE WITHOUT DIS-
RUPTING ESSENTIAL TRANSPORT. ALL THE PUBLIC WORKS DUMP TRUCKS
SHOULD BE AVAILABLE. 260 TRUCKS WOULD THEREBY BE AVAILABLE FROM
THE GOVERNMENT. BUT IN ADDITION, THERE ARE THE 370 PRIVATE FLAT
BEDS, SOME OR MOST OF WHICH COULD (AND SHOULD) BE REQUISITIONED IN AN
EMERGENCY. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS HAD
AS MANY AS 500 TRUCKS ON THE PHNOM PENH-BATTAMBANG RUN AT TIMES
WHEN ROUTE 4 HAS BEEN CLOSED.

8. IN CONCLUSION IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT 208 TANK KITS BE
OBTAINED. 100 SHOULD ARRIVE BY DECEMBER 15 AND SHOULD BE AIR-
LIFTED IF NECESSARY. THE BALANCE SHOULD BE SEA FREIGHTED TO
ARRIVE IN JANUARY. THE ESTIMATED TOTAL COST TO AID FUNDS IS
\$952,000.

208 KITS AT \$3,300	- \$686 THOUSAND
CONTINGENCY (5PCT)	- 33 "
FREIGHT	- 233 "
	952 THOUSAND

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